



THE 9TH ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (AIPA) CAUCUS
Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia
17 – 20 July 2017

SUMMARY REPORT ON
THE STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 37TH AIPA RESOLUTIONS

To be completed and returned no later than Friday, 23rd June 2017 to:

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COUNTRY :

1. POLITICAL MATTER

NO	RESOLUTION	IMPLEMENTATION
1.	RES.37GA/2016/POL/03 Resolving Internal and External Challenges Through Democratic Process and Achieving Peace and Stability Through Consultation, Consensus, and Negotiation	See Country Report on Peaceful Resolution to Conflicts.
2.	RES.37GA/2016/POL/04 Strengthening Cooperation to Ensure Cybersecurity in ASEAN	In April 2017, the Singapore Parliament passed the Computer Misuse and Cybersecurity Amendment (CMCA) Bill. The amendments passed includes criminalising the act of dealing in personal information obtained via an act in contravention of the CMCA, criminalising the act of dealing in items capable of being used to commit a CMCA offense, extraterritorial application of CMCA offences with 'serious harm' to Singapore and amalgamate charges for CMCA offences. The amendments to the CMCA seeks to tackle the increasing scale and transnational nature of cybercrimes, as well as the evolving tactics of cybercriminals.

3.	RES.37GA/2016/POL/05 Enhancing Maritime Security Cooperation and Protection of Marine Resources in ASEAN	In the first half of 2017, the Singapore Parliament passed the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea (Amendment) Bill which would give effect to the International Convention for the Control and Management of ships' Ballast Water and Sediments. The Convention seeks to prevent the transfer of harmful marine species and pathogens from one marine environment to another by establishing standards and procedures for the management of ships' ballast water and sediments. It also places restrictions on the uptake and discharge of ballast water by ships, and mandates the safe disposal of sediments. The Convention was adopted by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in February 2004, and will be entering into force in September 2017. Singapore, as a responsible Flag State and Port State committed to marine environment protection and sustainable shipping, will accede to the Convention. The Prevention of Pollution of the Sea (Amendment) Bill 2017 enables Singapore to comply with the Convention.
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2. ECONOMIC MATTER

NO	RESOLUTION	IMPLEMENTATION
1.	RES.37GA/2016/ECO/01 Creating Job Opportunities and Decent Working Conditions in the Process of Enhancing Sustainable Economic Development	Singapore Parliament approved the Budget 2017 earlier this year where many policies and measures were announced to create job opportunities and enhance productivity and innovation for local SMEs. The Singapore Government will increase wage and training support provided under the Career Support Programme, the Professional Conversion Programme, and the Work Trial Programme. An “Attach and Train” initiative will also be introduced for sectors that have good growth prospects, but where companies may not be ready to hire yet. Instead, industry partners can send participants for training and work attachments. This will increase the chances of these workers to find a job in the sector later. An additional sum of up to \$26 million a year will be committed from the Lifelong Learning Endowment Fund and the Skills Development Fund to support these initiatives.
2.	RES.37GA/2016/ECO/02 Strengthening the Growth of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in Entering and Optimizing the Global Value Chains by Improving Access to Finance	Budget 2017 also encouraged SMEs to adopt digital solutions to enhance productivity and innovate. The Singapore Government will introduce the SMEs Go Digital Programme to help SMEs build digital capabilities and also partner SMEs through the Headstart Programme. The Headstart programme allows SMEs that co-develop IP with the Government to enjoy royalty-free and exclusive

	and Technology, and Enhancing Productivity and Innovation	licences for 18 months in the first instance. In response to industry feedback, this will be extended to 36 months. Singapore Parliament support these measures when the Budget 2017 was approved.
3.	RES.37GA/2016/ECO/03 Parliamentary Support for ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Implementation	Singapore Parliament approved the budget of the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) in March 2017. At the MTI's Committee of Supply, Singapore Parliament was informed that under the ASEAN Economic Community, ASEAN member states are looking at the harmonisation and mutual recognition of standards across a wide range of sectors – including automotives, cosmetics and medical devices – and aligning them to international standards wherever possible. Singapore is working with our ASEAN member states to improve trade facilitation through the ASEAN-wide Self-Certification regime and the ASEAN Single Window (ASW). These initiatives will also reduce the administrative burden and cost to our traders. Singapore will also press on with our efforts for greater regional connectivity through the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

3. SOCIAL MATTER

NO	RESOLUTION	IMPLEMENTATION
1.	RES.37GA/2016/SOC/01 Strengthening Cooperation among AIPA Member Parliaments on Preparedness and Response to Zika Virus Infection	<p>Minister for Health Gan Kim Yong and Minister for the Environment and Water Resources Masagos Zulkifli made a joint Ministerial Statement during the sitting of Parliament on 13 September 2016. In the Statement, both Ministers informed Parliament of the steps taken to prepare for Zika and the surveillance phase, to actively detect cases and identify clusters to manage the spread of Zika, and steps undertaken to control the mosquito population prior to and during the outbreak.</p> <p>Health Minister Gan Kim Yong also participated in the ASEAN Health Ministers Special Video Conference on the “Theat of Zika Virus in the Region” on 19 September 2016 to discuss ways to strengthen regional cooperation in the fight against the Zika virus. Minister Gan took the opportunity to share Singapore’s experience in managing Zika and our three-prong approach in (i) preparing for Zika, (ii) responding to initial cases, and (iii) managing Zika in the long term. Minister Gan emphasised the need for transparent and timely information sharing</p>

		<p>on the disease situation and responses amongst affected countries. He also shared our experience in vector control efforts. On ASEAN Cooperation, Minister Gan urged ASEAN Member States to “adopt a practical and sustainable approach to the management of Zika for the long term... and leverage on the strong government, economic, social and people-to-people links to further strengthen our regional collaboration”. Until such time that research brings about a vaccine, vector control will remain one of the most important strategies in our fight against Zika.</p> <p>In the statement released after the meeting, ASEAN Health Ministers agreed to strengthen in-country disease surveillance by leveraging on existing regional and WHO platforms to enhance surveillance and response on Zika Virus Disease and other emerging and re-emerging diseases. Member States will also take appropriate measures to manage risks by intensifying vector control measures, conducting research and sharing of new knowledge and best practices.</p>
2.	<p>RES.37GA/2016/SOC/02 Strengthening Cooperation among AIPA Member Parliaments on the Implementation of Plan of Action to Materialize ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection</p>	<p>ComCare provides social assistance for low-income individuals and families. The scheme supports person and families who need temporary help as they work towards self-reliance. ComCare Programme are funded by the Community Care Endowment Fund (ComCare Fund) established in 2005. The ComCare Fund provides sustainable funding for assistance programme for low-income Singaporeans.</p> <p>During Budget 2017, the Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF) talked about the extension of coverage of the ComCare Scheme to more families. The income criteria for the scheme had been revised to benefit more low-income family.</p> <p>Apart from that, the Singapore Government also provides additional transfer such as Silver Support and Medishield Life premium subsidies to help lower-income Singaporeans.</p>
3.	<p>RES.37GA/2016/SOC/03 Enhancing Cooperation in Response to Climate Change in ASEAN</p>	<p>Singapore deposited its instrument of ratification of the Paris Agreement on 21 September 2016. Singapore’s ratification of the Agreement is a further affirmation of our support and commitment for climate action.</p>

		<p>In the first half of 2017, the Singapore Parliament passed the Energy Conservation (Amendment) Bill and the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea (Amendment) Bill to achieve Singapore’s climate change goals.</p> <p>Singapore participates actively in the ASEAN Working Group on Climate Change (AWGCC) and had conducted multiple capacity-building workshops under the ASEAN Action Plan on Joint Response to Climate Change (AAP-JRCC) for AMS with partners such as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Singapore is the chair of the AWGCC for the term of 2016-2019.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>RES.37GA/2016/SOC/04 Sustainable Tourism</p>	<p>Achieving sustainable tourism is a continuous process. It requires the constant monitoring of the impact of tourism, and introducing preventive and/or corrective measures when necessary. Singapore takes a Whole-of-Government approach to sustainable tourism. Ensuring a balanced economic, cultural, environmental and social framework while welcoming tourists into the country continues to be a key concern for the Singapore and we welcome sustainable tourism practices.</p> <p>The Singapore Tourism Board (STB) is a statutory board under the Ministry of Trade and Industry of Singapore. It champions the development of Singapore's tourism sector, one of the country's key service sectors and economic pillars, and undertakes the marketing and promotion of Singapore as a tourism destination. While STB leads in driving tourism development, it cannot do it alone; continued support from industry players is crucial in ensuring the success and sustainable growth of the sector. In the face of growing challenges such as resource scarcity and increasingly discerning travellers, there is a need to focus on yield-driven quality growth. As such, STB and tourism industry players have to work collaboratively to continue to innovate and create value for visitors. STB also aims to facilitate the sharing of experiences, expertise and resources among industry players to raise industry capability and competitiveness, maximise business opportunities and forge long-term win-win partnerships.</p> <p>Strong support and active participation from Singapore residents are also imperative to the tourism sector as they are an integral part of Singapore’s identity and appeal. STB will continue to work with tourism industry partners to nurture public engagement as part of its tourism development efforts; every local resident is a potential advocate for tourism and together, their collective ideas and energies can contribute to the sustainable development of the tourism sector.</p>

4. WAIPA MATTER

NO	RESOLUTION	IMPLEMENTATION
1.	<p>RES.37GA/2016/WAIPA/02 Decent Work for Women in ASEAN by Promoting Social Protection and Equal Opportunity</p>	<p>In Singapore, there are equal working and educational opportunities for men and women on the basis of meritocracy. Article 12 of the Singapore Constitution states all persons are equal before law.</p> <p>Women rights are protected in several pieces of legislation such as the Singapore Constitution, Employment Act, Women’s Charter and the Penal Code. There are also several national entities on women-related matters such as the Inter-Ministry Committee (IMC) on CEDAW which monitors Singapore’s implementation of CEDAW and the Office for Women’s Development (OWD).</p> <p>The Compulsory Education Act passed in 2000 mandates first six years of primary education ensure that all Singaporean children, regardless of gender, have equal access to quality education. Of note, women are well-represented in all areas of studies even subjects traditionally viewed as male domains. In 2014, women made up 71.4% of health sciences graduates; 58.4% of natural, physical and mathematical science graduates.</p> <p>In April 2017, the Singapore Parliament spent two days debating on a backbench Member motion titled “Aspirations of Singapore Women”. This motion was mooted by Ms Tin Pei Ling. The motion affirms the familial, social and economic contributions of Singapore women and Singapore Parliament’s support for women to fulfil their family and career aspirations and to be future-ready. The discussion and debate on this motion are relevant to the WAIPA resolutions on “Decent Work for Women in ASEAN by Promoting Social Protection and Equal Opportunity”. This motion received support from all sides of the House and passed unanimously on 4 April 2017.</p>
2.	<p>RES.37GA/2016/WAIPA/03 Extending the Maternity Benefits of Working Women in ASEAN</p>	<p>There are maternity benefits for working women in Singapore. In addition, there are paternity /parental leave policies in place to encourage fathers to share their responsibilities for the care of children. To support working parents in managing their work and family responsibilities, fathers and mothers are eligible for leave schemes such as Government-paid maternity leave, paternity leave, shared</p>

		<p>parental leave, infant care and child care leave, and Government-paid maternity benefit.</p> <p>Legislated leave provisions have been progressively enhanced over the years to strengthen this support. In particular, paid Maternity Leave was increased in 2004 from eight weeks to 12 weeks, and this was further extended to 16 weeks in 2008.</p> <p>Singapore have also increased leave provisions to encourage fathers to play a more active role in caring for their children. Most recently, Singapore Parliament have legislated two weeks of Paternity Leave from 1 January 2017, and from 1 July 2017, Shared Parental Leave will be raised to four weeks from one week currently. This will give working parents more flexibility to decide on the allocation of leave that best suits their caregiving needs.</p>
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